Fir Pinwheel

Radiodiscus abietum

Gastropoda — Stylommatophora — Charopidae

CONSERVATION STATUS / CLASSIFICATION

Rangewide: Vulnerable (G3) Statewide: Imperiled (S2)

ESA: No status

USFS: Region 1: No status; Region 4: No status

BLM: No status IDFG: Not classified

BASIS FOR INCLUSION

Reduced distribution and abundance in Idaho.

TAXONOMY

No subspecies is recognized.

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

This terrestrial snail occurs in Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Washington. Within Idaho, populations were historically found at scattered sites throughout much of the northern forests in the state as far south as the upper Weiser River valley. Populations have not been relocated at most sites during recent years, and only a population in the Salmon River valley has been confirmed to be extant. Individuals were rarely encountered at this site (Frest and Johannes 1997, Frest 1999).

POPULATION TREND

Populations are absent from most historical sites (Frest 1999), suggesting that a pervasive decline has occurred.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

This species inhabits rocky sites in Douglas fir forests. A rich understory of forbs, shrubs, and bryophytes is characteristic of occupied habitat. Rock formations typically consist of basalt, schist, or limestone (Frest 1999).

ISSUES

According to Frest and Johannes (1997), much of the habitat has been lost to logging, grazing, roads, and forest fires. The remaining site has also been logged and individuals were only found in a small rocky area that had not been entirely clear-cut (Frest 1999).

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Surveys are needed throughout the known range of this species, particularly in and near historically occupied sites, to determine the current status of this species in the state.

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